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PATENT #  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

MAR 05 2002

PATENT & TRADEMARK

In Re U.S. Patent Application

Applicant: FitzGerald et al.

Serial No.: 10/044,609

Filing Date: January 11, 2002

For: EFFICIENCY MODE FOR WATER  
SOFTENER

Art Unit: 1724

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this date.

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Date  
F-CLASS.WCM

Appr. February 20, 1998

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Attorney for Applicants

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants through counsel herewith submit copies of the publications as set forth in the attached form PTO-1449 as follows:

U.S. PATENTS

<u>DOCUMENT NO.</u>	<u>INVENTOR</u>	<u>DATE</u>
4,379,057	Meiser et al.	April 5, 1983
4,490,249	Seal	December 25, 1984
5,045,187	Suchanek	September 3, 1991
5,069,779	Brown et al.	December 3, 1991
5,089,140	Brane et al.	February 18, 1992
5,273,070	Chili et al.	December 28, 1993

5,589,058	Bauer	December 31, 1996
5,751,598	Zabinski et al.	May 12, 1998
5,879,559	Schreiner et al.	March 9, 1999
6,235,200	Mace	May 22, 2001
6,284,132	Zimmerman et al.	September 4, 2001

**REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above-listed references in the examination of this application and list these references of record in the application.

Respectfully submitted,

February 21, 2002

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Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce  
(Rev. 8-88) Patent and Trademark Office

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Attorney Docket No.: 0308.65666 Serial No.: 10/044,609-

Applicant: FitzGerald et al.

Filing Date: January 11, 2002 Group: 1724

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	4,379,057	Apr. 5, 1983	Meiser et al.			
	4,490,249	Dec. 25, 1984	Seal			
	5,045,187	Sep. 3, 1991	Suchanek			
	5,069,779	Dec. 3, 1991	Brown et al.			
	5,089,140	Feb. 18, 1992	Brane et al.			
	5,273,070	Dec. 28, 1993	Chili et al.			
	5,589,058	Dec. 31, 1996	Bauer			
	5,751,598	May 12, 1998	Zabinski et al.			
	5,879,559	Mar. 9, 1999	Schreiner et al.			
	6,235,200	May 22, 2001	Mace			
	6,284,132	Sep. 4, 2001	Zimmerman et al.			

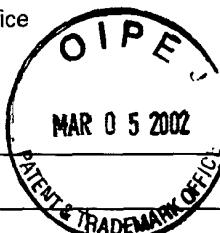
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


Examiner \_\_\_\_\_ Date Considered \_\_\_\_\_

\*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



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